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Heidi M. May

Heidi M. May
(signature)

April 24, 2003

(Date of signature)

In re Application of: Albert Calderon et al.

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Serial No. 09/901,554

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Filed: July 9, 2001

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Attorney Docket: 1-15755

For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING
CLEAN ENERGY FROM COAL

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April 24, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action and before examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Add new claim 39.

39. (New) A method for producing clean energy from coal comprising:

feeding coal into a chamber which is sealed to the atmosphere and which

· possesses a charging end and a discharging end;

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moving the coal within said chamber towards the discharging end;

injecting oxygen in such a way as to combust a portion of the coal while

maintaining a pressurized reducing atmosphere to:

(i) cause the release of high levels of thermal energy to devolatilize the coal;

and

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